

The Leesburg Tree Commission met in regular session on Monday June 19, 2000, at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room, 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia. Members present were: Mr. John Groothuis, Ms. Anne Wall, Mr. Earl Hower, Ms. Kathleen Pritchard, Mr. Jim Hicks, Mr. R. Max Peterson and Mr. Bob Zoldos. Staff was represented by Mr. Jay S. Banks and Susan DeJong.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 17, 2000, meeting were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Wall stated that the Tree Commission's booth at the Flower and Garden Show needs to have at least two people there each day for the duration of the show.

Ms. Pritchard suggested that if a Tree Commission member is not going to be available for the Flower and Garden Show, then those persons should provide a substitute to take their place.

The Commissioners asked Mr. Banks if a smaller species of tree could be handed out at the Flower and Garden Show because the people with townhouses cannot plant the large caliper trees that the Forest Service provides.

Mr. Banks said that the smaller species are listed as shrubs. Mr. Banks said that he could bring in another seedling source so that the Commissioners could compare prices.

Mr. Banks stated that the cost incurred by the Tree Commission for Arbor Day was roughly \$600.00.

Mr. Banks also said that he has accepted the price quote from Twin Oaks Landscaping for the planting in the Eastern Gateway area.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hower stated that since Mr. Dana Malone is retiring as the State Forester from the Forest Service that perhaps the Commissioners would like to draft a resolution recognizing him for his years of service to Loudoun County. Mr. Malone was involved with Leesburg's Arbor Day, the Tree City and the Pursuit of the Proper Urban Forestry Practices for the benefit of Leesburg's residents.

Ms. Pritchard moved that the Tree Commission present a resolution to the Town Council recognizing Mr. Dana Malone for his years of service. The motions was seconded by Mr. Hicks and approved by all present.

Mr. Banks stated that this information would have to be in the Clerk of Councils office by Tuesday June 20th, 2000.

Mr. Hicks would like for the Tree Commission to focus more directly on finding a place for the Town of Leesburg's Arboretum.

Mr. Zoldos recommended that the Tree Commission draft a letter to the Town Manager requesting that staff look into acquiring a 1-2 acre parcel of land in the Town of Leesburg for the purpose of establishing an arboretum.

Mr. Hicks volunteered to draft a letter for the Commissioners to look at during the July meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Ms. Pritchard said that there were some trees at the Library that Mr. Banks may want to look at because of the heavy equipment that has been placed on their roots.

Ms. Pritchard asked how the Council responded to the idea of having a more centralized tree management program.

Mr. Groothuis thought that the Council had a positive reception.

Mr. Zoldos said that the Town Manager's and the Council's role is to make sure that there aren't a number repetitive processes happening in the town. Centralizing departments will help the Town to provide better services for the citizens of Leesburg.

Mr. Hower stated that he met with Kaj Dentler Director of the Town of Leesburg's Parks and Recreation Department, and representatives from the National Izaak Walton League, the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resource and Conservation Service to discuss a workshop that will be held in late September or early October. This workshop will be funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and will be a two-day training session on stream restoration and riparian buffers. There will be an actual demonstration of a site on the Tuscarora Creek.

Mr. Zoldos stated that he received a brochure about a forum being held on Friday August 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Manassas campus of George Mason University. The forum is being sponsored by the Potomac Council and will include a virtual tour of the Potomac Watershed with discussions involving "where are we meeting our nutrient reduction goals in the Potomac Watershed and where do we need to be by the year 2001."

Mr. Zoldos also said that during the presentation before the Council the Town Attorney, Bill Donnelly, volunteered to work with the Tree Commission to help draft legislation for tree preservation.

Mr. Groothuis would like to invite Mr. Donnelly to attend the July meeting of the Leesburg Tree Commission.

Mr. Peterson told the Commissioners that the Conservation and Reinvestment Act has passed in the House and more information can be found on the Web-Site: Teaming With Wildlife.

Mr. Banks told the Commissioners that there are some interesting workshops being offered in the near future. The locations are Madison, Wisconsin; Lexington, Kentucky; Charlotte, North Carolina; and Chicago. If any of the Commissioners are interested in attending Mr. Banks can provide them with additional information.

Also, for being a Tree City U.S.A., Mr. Banks said that there is "Community Forestry at its Best Workshop" at the National Arbor Day Foundation's Headquarters in Nebraska City in September.

Mr. Banks stated that the 2000 by 2000 program is over. The 2000th tree has been donated and it will be planted at the Public Safety Center here in Leesburg.

There being no further business the Tree Commission adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Town Arborist

Susan DeJong, Recording Secretary